

# Senate Study Bill 3137 - Introduced

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
STATE GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION  
BY CHAIRPERSON SMITH)

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution  
2 of the State of Iowa relating to the quorum necessary to  
3 transact certain business for each house of the general  
4 assembly.  
5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of  
2 the State of Iowa is proposed:

3 Section 8 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of  
4 Iowa is amended to read as follows:

5 **Quorum.** SEC. 8. A majority of each house shall constitute  
6 a quorum to transact business; but a smaller number may adjourn  
7 from day to day, and may compel the attendance of absent  
8 members in such manner and under such penalties as each house  
9 may provide. However, if at least one-half of the seats of a  
10 house are vacant, that house shall not be allowed to pass bills  
11 or joint resolutions or exercise the power of impeachment until  
12 such time as sufficient vacancies are filled so that less than  
13 one-half of the seats of that house are vacant.

14 Sec. 2. REFERRAL AND PUBLICATION. The foregoing proposed  
15 amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa is referred  
16 to the general assembly to be chosen at the next general  
17 election for members of the general assembly, and the secretary  
18 of state is directed to cause the proposed amendment to be  
19 published for three consecutive months previous to the date of  
20 that election as provided by law.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the  
25 Constitution of the State of Iowa relating to the quorum  
26 necessary to transact specific business for each house of the  
27 general assembly.

28 The joint resolution provides that if at least one-half of  
29 the seats of a house of the general assembly are vacant, that  
30 house shall not be allowed to pass bills or joint resolutions  
31 or exercise the power of impeachment until less than one-half  
32 of the seats of that house remain vacant.

33 The resolution, if adopted, would be published and then  
34 referred to the next general assembly for adoption, before  
35 being submitted to the electorate for ratification.